

# Mansfield Public Schools

## Board of Education Update

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Superintendent of Schools

Issue #63

September 2013

Information regarding the current status of the Mansfield Public Schools: items, issues, challenges, and opportunities district staff addressed during the month, as well as upcoming district and school events.

### Enrollment

Gr.	GW		SE		VN		MMS		Total
		+/-*		+/-*		+/-*		+/-*	
PK	22	0/0	25	1/0	31	2/0			78
K	35	4/0	36	2/0	41	2/0			112
1	43	0/0	47	1/0	46	5/0			136
2	32	4/0	53	8/0	43	0/5			128
3	40	0/4	44	4/0	49	1/1			133
4	28	1/0	37	4/0	48	0/3			113
PK-4									700
5							129	11/1	129
6							135	5/0	135
7							140	2/0	140
8							142	2/0	142
# Boys	109		118		127		280		
# Girls	91		124		131		266		
Total	200	9/4	242	20/0	258	10/9	546	20/1	1246

\*Enrolled/Withdrawn

Homeschool: 9 students from 5 families

	GW	SE	VN	MMS	District
Immigrant Children*	5	19	3	10	37
ELL**	7	6	5	10	28

\*Eligible immigrant children are defined as a) ages 3-21 enrolled full-time in school, b) not born in any state, c) have not been attending 1 or more schools in 1 or more states for more than 3 full academic years.  
\*\*English Language Learners

### District Performance Targets (12-13)

Indicator	Participation Rate (11-12)	DPI (11-12)	Baseline DPI (3 yr. Avg.)	DPI Perf. Target (12-13)
DPI*	100.0%	88.9	88.1	Maintain
Students w/ Disabilities	100.0%	60.8	59.4	61.7
Free/Reduced Eligible	100.0%	76.7	76.4	77.4
Hispanic	100.0%	79.7	80.5	81.1
ELL	100.0%	64.1	64.1	66.1
Reading	99.6%	87.6	86.6	86.7
Mathematics	100.0%	90.7	90.3	Maintain
Writing	99.6%	89.3	88.3	Maintain
Science	100.0%	88.5	90.5	Maintain

\* District Performance Index

### Connecticut Mastery Test Results

# / % of students at/above goal – March 2013

Grade	Math	Writing	Reading	Science
3 – 115	95 / 83.3	89 / 77.4	88 / 76.5	n/a
4 – 124	102 / 82.3	90 / 72.6	92 / 75.4	n/a
5 – 137	124 / 91.9	116 / 85.3	108 / 80.6	119 / 86.9
6 – 141	108 / 76.6	107 / 76.4	112 / 80.0	n/a
7 – 135	117 / 86.7	120 / 88.9	122 / 90.4	n/a
8 – 141	105 / 75.0	122 / 87.1	118 / 84.3	117 / 83.0

Students not reaching goal in one or more areas: (2013-2014 grade)

Gr. 4 – 39/34%	Gr. 7 – 57/40%
Gr. 5 – 49/39%	Gr. 8 – 26/19%
Gr. 6 – 43/31%	Gr. 9 – 44/31%

### Budget

- Food Service Comparison:

August-September 2011		August-September 2013	
Paid Meals	Total Meals	Paid Meals	Total Meals
10,379	17,269	9,930	17,139

- Continued 13-143 purchases in preparation for the school year.

### Personnel

	Certified	Non-Certified
Retirements	0	0
Resignations	0	0
Requests for Leave	0	0
New Hires	1	2
Reduction in Force	0	0

- Participated in MEA Negotiations with Personnel Committee.
- Facilitated signing of UPSEU contract.

### District: Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment

#### Including Instructional Technology Applications

- Facilitated continued implementation of District CCSS Plan Year 2.
- Continued Study Island software program for all district grade 3 and 4 students to use both at school and at home.

### Policies

- Continued to implement revised MBOE Policies approved at September 13, 2012 meeting.
- Facilitated implementation of changes to MPS Teacher/Administrator Professional Learning & Evaluation Plan.
- Met with Policy Committee and Board Atty. to review 2013-14 Policy updates, MBOE Ethics Code, and BOE Religious

### Security

- Continued the implementation of required crisis prevention drills for all schools with emergency management officials.
- Continued the implementation of Tabletop Emergency Procedures Drill preparation.
- Continued to implement Board approved enhanced safety measures.

## Building and Grounds

- Continued to implement an alternative work order system.
- Facilitated MMS greenhouse construction.
- Facilitated construction of Southeast entry vestibule and correcting mechanical issues.

Maintenance Work Requests						
	GW	SE	VN	MMS	Total	
Solved	10	15	13	31	69	24%
Pending	15	18	13	29	75	44%
Open	3	5	2	2	12	15%
Total	28	38	28	62	156	17%

## Programs

Study Island Through September 28, 2013							
Grade 3				Grade 4			
Math		Reading		Math		Reading	
Q*	% Correct	Q*	% Correct	Q*	% Correct	Q*	% Correct
18	29.6	0	0	65	25.1	0	0

\*Number of questions attempted on grade level

## Energy

- Facilitated school building energy committees.
- Continued to facilitate guidelines for after school building use in an effort to reduce energy consumption.
- Monitored use of energy efficient refrigerators to replace classroom use of small refrigerators.
- Initiated monitoring of gas heat & electric energy charges at MMS due to fuel conversion project.
- Implemented with finance and maintenance department common comprehensive energy management system.

## Communication

- Provided all staff with an update of Administrative Council items.
- Facilitated two Administrative Council meetings.
- Held monthly Facilities Management Meeting.
- Attended Open Houses at all four schools to provide Community Conversations.
- Attended Region 19 & Sending Schools Superintendents' Meeting.
- Attended MAC meeting.
- Attended PTO meetings at Goodwin and Southeast.
- Implemented digital take home notices at all schools.
- Facilitated Breakfast for German students and host families at Mansfield Middle School.

## Professional Development

- Supported the continued development of school data teams.
- Facilitated professional development training for Kindergarten and Grade 1 in mathematics and reading/language arts.
- Implemented District Common Core State Standards as outlined in district plan year two.
- Facilitated Professional Development Committee Meeting.
- Facilitated TEAM Committee Meeting.

## Technology Administrative Applications

- Continued implementation of HealthOffice Software.
- Continued implementation of automated system for recording substitutes.
- Continued use of Horizon library system software.
- Continued implementation of Pearson Limelight Inform to track student assessment data to inform instruction.
- Continued implementation of MMS Parent Portal.
- Implementation of School Messenger software program for transportation and school delays/closings to parents/guardians.
- Continued to implement Versatran's school bus routing software.
- Continued implementation of Bloomboard for certified staff professional learning and evaluation support.

## Other

- Facilitated bus evacuation drills at all schools.
- Attended CAPSS Legislative Committee meeting.
- Attended TEAM District Facilitator Meeting.
- Attended Advisory Committee on Intergovernmental Relations (ACIR) meeting.
- Attended Shipman & Goodwin Legislative Update.
- Attended New England Association of School Superintendents (NEASS) Annual Conference.
- Attended URSA Superintendents' Meeting.

Additional information will be provided upon request by calling 429.3350 or by emailing [mboesupt@mansfieldct.org](mailto:mboesupt@mansfieldct.org).

# Mansfield Public Schools Monthly Memorable Moments

## Goodwin School

- On September 5, Goodwin students tried out their engineering skills by participating in the Great Egg Drop. Students were encouraged to build a container that would be strong enough to protect an egg dropped from a height of over 50 feet. All kinds of fabulous containers were created. Some had parachutes, others were wrapped in protective layers and still others were suspended by duct tape in the center of a box. The UConn fire department arrived on scene and lifted all competing creations up to the top of their extension ladder truck. Then, one by one, the containers were dropped. Remarkably, nearly two dozen eggs survived the drop. The entire school had a great time cheering on the contestants.
- September 20 was the inaugural date for Goodwin's Big Whale Bash. The Bash, sponsored by the PTO, replaced the traditional Fun Fair that is generally held in the spring. Large tents and games led to a carnival atmosphere. It was a fabulous Friday evening and over 100 volunteers helped with the festivities. Students and their families enjoyed many familiar Fun Fair games and several new ones including an obstacle course and a fishing pond. The weather cooperated and all festivities were held outdoors making the evening even more special. The PTO plans to expand its efforts next year as families enjoyed the event and had many positive comments.

## Southeast School

- Our Mileage Club and Running Club are off to breathtaking and healthy starts! Every day at Southeast you see students earning foot tokens for the distances they have completed. The students are highly motivated, setting reasonable goals, and monitoring their progress towards their own healthy goals. Best of all, students coach other students to do their best and to keep trying to go the distance. Need a kick start in your own exercise program? The students will motivate you to do more than you thought possible!
- Our Fourth Graders have started off the year strong with their implementation of Junior Great Books. The program encourages students by providing thought provoking and high quality literature and ending the story with just enough information to support students to draw their own inferences, thoughts and conclusions. The stories are tantalizing. The students are thinking out of the box and the teachers are carefully plotting out the discussion to allow for deep engagement and evidence of depth of knowledge.
- Our K - 2 students are engaged in a revised version of the Bridges math program. The program has been carefully aligned to the common core standards and the teachers are commenting on how impressed they are with their students' thinking. Opportunities abound for children to push their thinking and model mathematical problem solving for their classmates to hear and see.

## Vinton School

- The Vinton Family began their new Mileage Club challenge on September 17<sup>th</sup>. This year students are trying to complete a marathon (26.2 miles!) during the school year. All students that complete 100 laps will have the opportunity to participate in Kid's Marathon at Norwich Free Academy in June, 2014, where they will finish the final mile of their marathon. Students have already been completing many laps and encouraging one another to do a few laps each time they have mileage club. The goal is for students to walk or run 3 laps on each mileage club day. This is really motivating the kids to keep moving during recess!
- The new school year got off to a great start without hurricanes or snow storms on August 28<sup>th</sup>. This year Celebrate Vinton monthly assemblies will continue to acknowledge students who exhibit positive character traits. These students will be recognized each month as "Outstanding Owls." Different traits will be recognized during each month of the school year; in September/October the focus will be on Respect: treating others the way I want to be treated, being considerate of other feelings, opinions and property and following the "Golden Rule."
- The hallways and classrooms were full of "new year" excitement as Vinton School celebrated its annual Open House on the evening of September 24<sup>th</sup>. There was a palpable feeling of pride and "Vinton Family" spirit. Many community organizations attended and set up displays in the gym for parents and students to explore, including the Cub Scouts, Girl Scouts, Mansfield Community Playground, and Mansfield Parks and Recreation. This was a wonderful event to launch what promises to be a fabulous school year.

## Mansfield Middle School

- Outstanding turn-out for this year's Open House. Our teachers put a great deal of thought and energy into providing our parents with information. We all appreciate our dedicated parents, MMSA and the school community.
- For three weeks in September-October, nineteen students from our partner school in Sarstedt, Germany, visited MMS. Each guest student stayed with a home host and followed the school schedules of two or three school hosts. Over 100 MMS students and parents greeted the guests at the middle school and provided a potluck dinner. Guests participated in an overnight trip to Cape Cod, team building activity at the Aerial Adventure Park and a day in New York City, and many family activities.
- Thirty-five After-School activities began on September 16. There are over 320 student participants in a wide range of activities, including wrestling, step team, sci-fi movie club, robotics, computers, growing food sustainably, science bowl, sewing club etc. An important part of the middle school experience is the exploration of interests, and we encourage all students to participate in the activities offered each quarter.
- The MMS fall sports season has begun for our boys soccer team, girls soccer team and our cross-country team. Fall student-athletes in Grades 7 and 8 practice or compete in matches/meets each day after school in September and October. Over 75 students are participating in interscholastic sports this fall.
- Thirteen MMS string players participated in this year's Fiddlehike, under the direction of orchestra director Mike Carbonneau. Students left school on Friday morning, September 27<sup>th</sup>, to hike in the White Mountains and to play traditional fiddle tunes at two different venues – an Appalachian Mountain Club hut and the Mount Washington Hotel.

## Upcoming Events in October:

*Please join us at any/all of these events*

GW	SE	VN
International Pot Luck Dinner 10/17/13 TBD	PTO Meeting 10/7/13 7:00pm	PTA Meeting 10/2/13 7:00pm
Fire Safety & Prevention Day 10/9/13	Fire Safety & Prevention Day 10/8/13	Fire Safety & Prevention Day 10/10/13
PTO Meeting 10/21/13 6:30pm	Pequot Museum 4 <sup>th</sup> Gr. FT 10/11/13	
	Creating a School Vision 10/17/13 6:30pm	
	Savory Samples WL Dinner 10/22/13 6:00pm	
	Florence Griswold Museum 4 <sup>th</sup> Gr. FT 10/30/13	
MMS		
MMSA Meeting 10/2/13 7:00pm	Mystic FT Gr. 5 10/11/13	Overlook Farm FT Gr. 6 10/17/13
Boston FT Gr. 8 10/18/13	Book Fair & Middle School Education Week 10/21-25/13	Internet Safety Presentation 10/21/13 12:30pm-Gr. 5, 1:20pm-Gr. 7
Fall Country Dance 10/22/13 7:00pm	Halloween Window Painting Storrs 10/16/13	
District		
Board Meeting – Goodwin 10/10/13 7:30pm	Columbus Day Holiday – No School 10/14/13	Professional Development Day – No School 10/15/13
Board Meeting – MMS 10/24/13 7:30pm		

### Link to District Four Schools Calendar of Events:

<http://www.mansfieldct.gov/content/3607/5184/7573.aspx>

or:

Go to <http://www.mansfieldct.gov/mboe> (Board of Ed. website)

- 1) In the middle at the bottom is a link called "Calendar of Events"
- 2) Click on that link and it will bring you to the calendar.